

THE GATEWAY

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AT THE END OF EVERY RAINBOW IS A POT OF GATEWAY As a new season, and a new semester, begins, a young person's fancy turns to thoughts of spring. Our fancy, though, turns to thoughts of newspapers, and so we'd like to invite you to enjoy this inaugural edition of the summer Gateway. It's not a pot of gold, but it'll do.

Admin approves Pembina conversion

University's only graduate residence will be turned into offices to help ease space shortages on campus

JAKE TROUGHTON
Senior News Editor

Residents of Pembina Hall have received eviction notices after the University gave final approval to a plan to convert the only residence designated for graduate students into office space.

The decision was finalized at the 18 April meeting of the Facilities Development Committee, giving students until 1 August to move out, at which point the conversion process will begin. The move is part of a plan to combat a large space shortage that has been exacerbated by recent announcements that the provincial government is looking to expand postsecondary education.

According to Provost and Vice President (academic) Carl Amrhein, various academic units on campus had reached the limits of their available space and had nowhere to put new employees who they'd been authorized to hire.

With Capital Health having taken up much of the available office space surrounding campus, he said, the University was forced to look at existing on-campus buildings.

"We started, in the fall, to take a good hard look at all kinds of opportunities, like putting sub-basements in HUB and all that other sort of stuff, and nothing seemed to make any sense," said Amrhein.

"So, there's nothing in the neighbourhood, there's nothing on campus, but we needed to do something, and we took a look at Pembina."

Meredith Kenzie, a representative of the Pembina Hall Students' Association, acknowledged the dilemma that the University is in,

but argued that the benefit of converting the relatively small building isn't enough to justify displacing the residents.

"Given the amount of space that they need, Pembina is not solving very much of the problem," said Kenzie.

"They have a huge problem on their hands, and they need bigger answers, which I know is difficult, but we're afraid that this is a snap decision that's going to end up being a bad one in the end."

Kenzie said that Pembina, the University's only dedicated graduate student residence, helped draw many students to the school in the first place.

"Given the amount of space that they need, Pembina is not solving very much of the problem. They have a huge problem on their hands, and they need bigger answers..."

MEREDITH KENZIE,
PEMBINA HALL STUDENTS'
ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

While students who relocate to other residences will have their phone and cable hookup fees paid for, and their rent grandfathered at Pembina rates—which are among the lowest at the U of A—Kenzie said that the loss of the Pembina community can't be compensated for.

PLEASE SEE PEMBINA • PAGE 3

New athletics director Dale Schula happy to be back in familiar role

CHRIS O'LEARY
Sports Editor

When it came time to hire a new athletics director, the University couldn't look past Dale Schula's experience—he has, after all, done the job already.

After a twelve-year absence, Schula was selected as the University's athletics director on 3 May. His familiarity with the position, when coupled with the experience of the business side of University athletics that he picked up in his time away from the role of athletics director, made him an ideal candidate for the job.

"There are a number of student athletes who would love to play at the U of A but can't get in [because of low marks]. If there are other opportunities for those student athletes to go and play, that's great."

DALE SCHULA,
INCOMING ATHLETICS DIRECTOR

An enthused Schula couldn't be happier about his new situation.

"I'm thrilled and I'm really excited to get back in this role," he said. "To be able to combine my athletic and development background back into this position is ideal for me."

The Canada West conference that Schula knew in 1993 has begun to change significantly, with the addition of new schools making their way into the fold. The addition of Thompson River (formerly University College of the Caribou, joining this fall), and the University College of Fraser Valley (joining in the fall of 2006), not only represents more competition, but also

will make the already difficult task of recruiting BC-based athletes even more daunting.

"Certainly, it makes things a little more competitive for our coaches from a recruitment standpoint. Kids now have more alternatives, especially from the volleyball, basketball and soccer standpoints," Schula said, noting that the new universities provide a good opportunity to student athletes across the country.

"We always want to provide the best athletic experiences for as many student athletes as possible, and not all institutions have the same academic standards," Schula said. "There are a

number of student athletes who would love to play at the U of A but can't get in [because of low marks]. If there are other opportunities for those student athletes to go and play, that's great."

A member of the 1972 Vanier Cup-winning Golden Bears football team, Schula is rooting for the '05 edition of the Bears, and said that a Vanier Cup win this season would have special meaning to him.

"I've got a particular interest [in the success of the football team] because I was the athletics director who cut the funding to the football program in '91."

PLEASE SEE SCHULA • PAGE 10

Inside

News	1-3
Opinion	4-5
A&E	6-8
Sports	9-11
Comics	12
Classifieds	12



Pause for Pembina

Daniel Kaszow thinks the University mishandled the Pembina Hall situation. See his editorial for more.

OPINION, PAGE 4



Can I buy a vowel?

Nik Kozub has started a record label called NRMILS WLCM. Are you welcome? Find out in A&E.

A&E, PAGE 6

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Suite 104
Students' Union Building
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
T6G 2J7

Telephone 780.492.5168
Fax 780.492.6665

E-mail gateway@gatewayualberta.ca

editorial staff

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Daniel Kaszor
cic@gatewayualberta.ca | 492.6664

MANAGING EDITOR David Berry
managing@gatewayualberta.ca | 492.6654

SENIOR NEWS EDITOR Jake Troughton
news@gatewayualberta.ca | 492.7398

DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR Chloé Fedio
deputynews@gatewayualberta.ca | 492.6664

OPINION EDITOR Tim Peppin
opinion@gatewayualberta.ca | 492.6663

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR Mike Larocque
entertainment@gatewayualberta.ca | 492.7052

SPORTS EDITOR Chris O'Leary
sports@gatewayualberta.ca | 492.6652

PHOTO EDITOR Matthew Frehner
photo@gatewayualberta.ca | 492.6648

DESIGN & PRODUCTION EDITOR Iris The
production@gatewayualberta.ca | 492.6661

business staff

BUSINESS MANAGER Don Iverson
biz@gatewayualberta.ca | 492.6669

AD SALES REPRESENTATIVE Patrick Czolek
sales@gatewayualberta.ca | 492.6700

AD GRAPHIC DESIGNER Lisa Lunn
design@gatewayualberta.ca | 492.6647

CIRCULATION PAL Adam Gaumont
circulation@gatewayualberta.ca | 492.6669



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colophon

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contributors

Ross Prusakowski, Robin Colman, Patrick Ross, Elizabeth Val, Katie Treadwell, James Storrie, the Pagenauts, Mike Robertson, Harold Pacheco, Scott C. Bourgeois, John Griewyk, Rotating Dice, Mike Otto, Miki Macneil, Cosanna Preston, Jeffrey Greenman, Dan Lusin, Leanne Fong and Tanna Magstone.

Human-rights complaints filed against University

COSANNA PRESTON
The Gateway

EDMONTON (CUP)—The mother of a student with a disability has filed two more human-rights complaints against the University of Alberta, bringing the total number of complaints to six.

Russell said the complaints, filed with the provincial human rights commission, criticize the University's "inability to provide appropriate accommodations" to allow her son, Matthew Russell, to continue his studies.

Matthew, a science student, has ankylosing spondylitis, a severely debilitating disease of the spine, similar to arthritis. In extreme cases, the disease can cause the complete fusion of the spine. Matthew receives treatments that aim to prevent this.

According to his mother, the disease confronts him on a daily basis. It often stops him from attending classes and completing work, as well as preventing him from advancing his case.

"He doesn't do any of this stuff. I deal with all of it, because it's the only way we lessen the impact. The stress makes him severely ill."

Russell said the disease has affected

her son's academics to the extent the university placed him on academic probation after the 2003/04 academic year, permitting him to retain his student status so long as he adhered to set guidelines, including class attendance.

The Russells appealed the decision, arguing discrimination based on disability, and fought it through all levels of the University. But, in the end, the General Faculties Council, the final deciding body, upheld Matthew's probation.

The council dismissed medical testimony supporting Matthew as insufficient, his mother said.

University staff was unable to comment on the case due to provincial privacy laws, and refused to discuss the University's approach to accommodating the needs of students with disabilities. Staff, still recommended a perusal of University policy pertaining to Matthew's case.

For instance, one of the six human-rights complaints suggests the University violated Matthew's privacy when it forced him to disclose private medical records to those deciding on exam deferrals and the committees weighing his case.

But University policy dictates those seeking accommodation must provide "whatever medical or other informa-

tion is reasonably necessary to confirm the need for an accommodation and to identify sufficiently that individual's specific needs."

"There is a double standard for the faculty and students. The superior of a faculty member would have no right to know private medical details, yet Matthew's files are known to a whole committee."

SUSAN RUSSELL
MOTHER OF COMPLAINANT

The policy infuriates Russell, who questioned the use of the word "reasonably," and argued an employee would never have to provide such documentation to their employer to receive proper accommodation.

"The doctor's say should be enough, and it would be enough for a supervisor in an employment situation," she said, noting that in her son's case, a

group of academics assessed the validity of a medical opinion.

"There is a double standard for the faculty and students. The superior of a faculty member would have no right to know private medical details, yet Matthew's files are known to a whole committee."

Another complaint discusses the lack of accommodation in a lab setting. Russell expressed her son's fight to have a chair during lab sessions. Standing was too difficult, and without a chair, Russell said, her son was forced to stop attending—resulting in a failing grade that she said could have been avoided.

University policy does state measures should be taken to physically adapt a space to the needs of a person with a disability, within the means of the law, but it cautions that this is not always possible.

Policy also suggests grievances arising due to the inability to provide accommodation should be addressed through the University's office of human rights. Instead, the Russells, wary of the University's involvement, opted to take their complaints to the provincial commission.

None of the complaints have been resolved to the Russells' satisfaction at this time.

CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Jake Troughton
(news@gatewayualberta.ca)

MAD SCIENTIST FORGETS HIS KNIFE

On 7 April at 8:30pm, University staff reported a break and enter into a lab located in the Dentistry/Pharmacy building. It appeared that the suspect was scared off, as he left behind an electronic scale, some glass vials, an identification card and a large knife. The Edmonton Police Service is investigating.

THE DINNER-INTERRUPTING BANDIT

On 7 April at 11:41pm, Campus Security received a report that a male was attempting to break into the Newton Place maintenance shop. When constables arrived they met several members of the Edmonton Police Service who were investigating a report of a break and enter at a nearby restaurant. A vice-grip wrench was found near the maintenance shop door and the male suspect was seen sneaking away through the fire exit. He was carrying a large pry bar and attempted to flee the area.

The suspect was chased into Avenue Pizza, where he ran through the kitchen and out the rear door into the Newton Place car park. With the assistance of EPS, the nonaffiliated male was eventually apprehended in the car park and charged with break and enter.

TELUUS WHAT YOU SAW

At 11:21pm on 12 April, Campus Security received reports of damage to several payphones on campus. In some instances, card readers were stolen from the telephones. There are no suspects in this case.

ALOADED PILLOW

A male, who was not affiliated with the University, was reported to be sleeping in the foyer of the Faculty Club at 10:44am on 16 April. When Campus 5-0 arrived on the scene to investigate, the male was uncooperative and was found to have a pair of bolt cutters in his backpack with two baggies of what appeared to be crystal meth. The man had an extensive criminal history and was arrested for possession of break and enter tools and possession of a narcotic.

SHE MADE TWO MISTAKES

On 16 April at 11:25pm, constables observed a blue Cavalier driving the

wrong way on a one-way street. When the vehicle was stopped, the female driver, who was not affiliated with the University, was found to be intoxicated. A 24-hour suspension was issued.

NOT A GOOD SPORT

In the wee hours of the morning on 17 April, Campus 5-0 observed a man passed out in his running vehicle outside the Saville Sports Centre. The driver was arrested and charged with negligence of care and control, and then turned over to EPS.

THE EARLY BIRD GETS ARRESTED

At 5:30am on 21 April, building services workers reported a suspicious person in the Humanities Centre. The non-affiliated male was questioned by constables and found to be in possession of break and enter tools. He was arrested and turned over to EPS.

THIS CLUB IS NOT FOR GOLFING

At 12:50am on 25 April, a nonaffiliated male flagged down a patrolling 5-0 vehicle claiming he needed a ride. The man was found to be concealing a golf club handle with a machined steel head, weighing approximately one pound. He attempted to flee, but was apprehended and arrested for carrying a concealed

weapon. The man was turned over to EPS.

BANDIT ELUDES 5-0

At approximately 8am on 29 April, a University staff member reported an audible alarm coming from an office in the Dent/Ph building. 5-0 received an intrusion alarm activation minutes later, and members were dispatched to the area. Investigations revealed that several offices had been broken into and the suspect had already fled the area. The EPS forensics unit lifted a fingerprint that belonged to a serial break and enter suspect believed to be responsible for over 30 break and enters on campus.

BANDIT CAUGHT!

On 4 May at 6:35am, a Campus Security officer observed a suspicious man exiting the University LRT station and entering HUB Mall. He was identified as the suspect of the Dent/Ph break-ins earlier in the week. The suspect had been arrested in March 2004 for a string of robberies on campus, and had been released from prison this winter after serving his sentence. With many robberies on campus in recent days, he appeared to have taken up old habits. The suspect had several outstanding warrants, and was turned over to EPS.

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A NEW LIFE FOR PEMBINA HALL The U of A's last remaining original residence is about to be converted into office space.

Pembina Hall residents lament loss of their home

PEMBINA • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"A lot of us chose to come [to the U of A] because there was a grad residence; now that's gone, that's going to affect recruiting," she said.

"The problem is that, except in engineering, we have largely the same space inventory that we had 8000 or 10 000 students ago. We've just reached the breaking point; we don't even have the broom closets anymore."

**CARL AMRHEIN,
U OF A PROVOST**

"The problem for most of us is, nowhere is going to be Pembina. It was quite special to a lot of us. Most

of us don't want to go into the residence system, because it's just not the same. That's what we can't describe to people, and what the administration doesn't seem to care about—the community atmosphere that's created."

Amrhein acknowledged the disappointment of Pembina residents and said that the decision was difficult to make, but argued that in light of an expanding school with limited space, the conversion will ultimately benefit more students than it will hurt.

"The problem is that, except in engineering, we have largely the same space inventory that we had 8000 or 10 000 students ago. We've just reached the breaking point; we don't even have the broom closets anymore," Amrhein said.

"The decision to act arose out of a convergence of events—most of which are good news, one of which is terrible news for the residents who love Pembina. I'm not unaware of that. [But] we have to worry about the ability of our academic units. At the end of the day, the students come not to live in residence, but to work with the academic units."

COUNCIL FORUM

Compiled by Ross Prusakowski

Students' Council meets every second Tuesday in Council Chambers in University Hall at 6pm. Council meetings are open to all students. The next meeting will be held on 17 May.

COUNCILMULLIGAN

While the majority of students fled campus to embrace summer following the end of exams, members of Students' Council stayed around last Friday to attempt to pass legislation vital to the Students' Union ability to operate legally, including the preliminary budget. However, an administrative slip-up ensured that nothing Council actually settled on was legal, and therefore the SU is still operating in legal limbo, and without a budget.

Under SU bylaw 50.0, all councillors are required to sign nondisclosure agreements before their terms, so the 2005/06 councillors failed to do. A ruling by the Discipline Interpretation and Enforcement Board on Monday stated that until enough councillors sign the nondisclosure agreement—so quorum requirements can be met—Council can't legally pass legislation. Accordingly, while the meeting took place, none of the decisions reached were legal, leaving the Students' Union without a budget and Council without a speaker. The issues will be resolved at the next meeting on 17 May.

STILL NO BUDGET

The SU is now continuing to operate and spend money illegally after the 2004/05 edition of council failed to reach quorum and pass a preliminary budget in two previous attempts in April. The 2005/06 councillors thought they had rectified this problem last Friday when, after a brief debate, they passed the preliminary budget legislation. The final budget will not be presented until June, but this version called for a surplus of slightly more than \$1000, and included the purchase of a cell phone for the president.

The only other item of business on Council's agenda was a vote on reopening the hiring process for Chief Returning Officer of the SU elections, after receiving only one valid application for the position. Council also extended its thanks to last year's CRO, Dane Bullerwell, who agreed to stay on until his successor is chosen.

LETTNER SETS OUT HIS VISION

With the light legislative agenda, most of the meeting was devoted to the addresses from the incoming executive. President Graham Lettner led off by stating that he would like to take a markedly different approach in how the organization is run. He plans to off-load as many of his duties as practical to the other members of the executive and the hired staff of the SU so he can focus on the most important issues facing students. Lettner also vowed to ensure that Students' Council has the resources to position itself at the top of the organization and allow it to set the long-term vision and purpose for the SU.

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed
by Chloé Fedio and Jake Troughton

The federal Conservative Party and Bloc Québécois are attempting to bring down the Liberal government and force a summer election.

Do you think there should be a federal election this summer?



**Michael
Kaluphimp**
Engineering I

I do. Whatever needs to be done to get the Liberals out of there. They're a minority government right now, and I think a little reform is needed. The Liberal government is ineffective, and although I don't favour a Conservative majority, I would prefer it to the Liberals.



Leila Hamida
Arts II

I think it's a good thing to have an election. Elections are always a good thing. It gives people the opportunity to express their opinion.



Josie Klanten
Open Studies I

No, I don't. I think a summer election would result in less voters. We already have such a low voter turnout in Canada and it would probably be less in the summer.



Chris Sellar
Phys Ed PHD
student

I don't think it's a good idea. Having another election means spending more money to end up in the exact same situation. I think the government should let things settle down a bit and straighten everything out before they jump into an election and end up going around in circles.



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Timing of Pembina deal shows lack of respect for students

RECENTLY, THE UNIVERSITY finalized its decision to convert Pembina Hall from a dormitory into academic and office space. As of this August, students guaranteed slots at the University's most central dorm will be moved to other facilities. Although the change—rubberstamped by the Facilities Development Committee 18 April—isn't surprising, what it implies about the administration's views on accountability to students is saddening.

First, I have to point out that I don't mind the idea of converting Pembina Hall into offices. Like its sister buildings, Athabasca and Assiniboia halls, which were converted to offices years ago, the location of Pembina simply makes more sense for an office or academic building than for living quarters. The main rationale behind keeping Pembina a residence is nostalgia: it was one of the first buildings built on campus, and it has been a residence for the entire history of the University. Nostalgia, though, isn't that practical on an ever-more cramped campus.

No, the main problem with Pembina's transition wasn't the actual transition itself so much as the way that the University went about putting it into action. With proceedings starting in the waning days of March and concluding before the end of April, the process was rushed by when students weren't looking.

Not only was the Gateway on publishing hiatus (as it always is for most of April), the students' most effective—heck, only—lobbying group, the Students' Union, was in the middle of their yearly transition.

Of course, even if the Gateway was coming out twice a week and the Students' Union was composed of battle-hardened veterans, it probably wouldn't have mattered, since everything happened in April, when students are so enveloped in exams that they're practically catatonic, save for gulping black coffee and scribbling barely legible notes.

I find it difficult to believe that the need for offices was so great that the University couldn't have extended the entire process another year. The move could have still been announced at the same time, but the students already guaranteed a spot would have been able to live out their year in Pembina, and then the conversion process could have started in 2006. However, had this more reasonable course been taken, the students would have had an entire year to protest the change, most of which would have been with a campus-focused newspaper to document it, an effective Students' Union, and a student population not nearly as distracted.

What the University's actions seem to imply is that they would rather push controversial legislation past students quickly than give them time to react and respond, even if it means that people will be hurt—in this case, the students who now have to live in inferior lodgings—in the process. Personally, I hope this won't become a recurring habit.

DANIEL KASZOR
Editor-in-Chief

Welcome to the summer Gateway

AH, SUMMER: TIME OF WONDER, time of mystery, time of lounging around on sun-drenched patios, burning one's shoulders to a crisp whilst the smell of cold beer and slow-grilled meats wafts gently through the neighbourhood, reminding us all what it means to be alive. Unless, of course, you're a Gateway editor, in which case you'll spend your summer sweating and depressed, locked in the sweltering offices on the third floor of SUB with nothing but internet weather updates and a neck rack to remind you that it's not snowing and cold anymore.

You see, for some reason, we've decided to print summer issues this year: 12 May, 26 May, 9 June, 7 July, 21 July and 4 August, to be exact. So look for us, and keep informed about campus news, sports, entertainment and, of course, editors' personal lives. Here's to summer.

DAVID BERRY
Managing Editor



LETTERS

Don't save Pembina

A considerable amount of hand-wringing has gone on about the state of Pembina Hall, the soon-to-be former residence in the middle of campus. While I can understand why the residents of Pembina Hall would be upset about losing their homes—even though they're being given plenty of warning—and I can understand the historical significance of one of the oldest buildings on campus, I can't understand what all the fuss is about.

Yes, of course, history is important, but it's not as if Pembina is getting torn down—it's simply getting used for a different purpose. This already happened to both Athabasca and Assiniboia halls, and—surprise, surprise—the buildings are still doing just fine, and also filling a more urgent need for the University. There is plenty of residence space around, and real estate as valuable as Pembina probably belongs in the hands of professors and grad students who will probably appreciate, and take better care of, the space anyway.

If Pembina were on slate to get bulldozed, then I would agree fully with those that are fighting to save it. However, given the circumstances, all the ruckus kicked up just makes the residents and their supporters look like whiners who can't seem to come to grips with the fact that, sometimes, things change.

BRIAN SOBECHAK
Arts III

Close the 'Plant for summer, SU

As a frequenter of campus bars, a certain part of me is glad that I get a chance to hang out around the Powerplant during the summer—after all, what could be better than sitting on a patio having a drink after a class than not having to walk far to sit on a patio and have a drink after a class?

However, as anyone who has had the chance to visit the 'Plant over the summer knows, it's pretty much dead—there are a few of us after-class drinkers, but mostly it's just the waitress and the bartender. And as much as I love having beer right in the middle of all my classes, the money that the 'Plant is admittedly losing—just ask former VP (operations/finance) Alvin Law ("Bar revitalization has been a success, Smith," 3 March)—would be far better served helping the SU to run its other operations or, for that matter, not going to the SU at all, and staying in my pocket so I can pay for my tuition or books.

Look, I'm glad there's beer—and that there's a place to eat other than the CAB food court—within easy walking distance, as I'm sure most of us are. And, while there are certain times the 'Plant is busy enough to warrant opening—like, say, the live shows on Saturdays, or even just another random evening throughout the week, like on a Friday—to have it open all day throughout the summer is not only foolish and a waste of SU money, it is a waste of students' money, something I think the SU

is lucky that most students don't seem to realize.

Look, it's great that the SU wants to serve students, but I think we'd all be better served with a little extra money in our pocket—maybe we could even use it to take a bus to a bar on Whyte Ave.

STEPHEN BELLAMY
Science II

Darfur destined to become another Armenia

Why is it that the Canadian press is so incensed by the atrocities committed by the Japanese, and feels so indignant to its denials, when our press repeatedly remains oblivious to the Armenian genocide perpetrated by Turkey against its law-abiding Armenian population in 1915? Double standards appear to be the order of the day, and historical revisionism seems to supersede journalistic integrity and honest reporting.

In the summer of 1939, Hitler stated, "Who still talks nowadays of the extermination of the Armenians?" Indeed, had the world summoned the moral fortitude to challenge evil then, subsequent human tragedies may have been averted. Instead, several nations chose to collaborate and remain shamefully indifferent, actively participating in genocide denial, and promulgating historical revisionism for political expediency.

During the solemn ceremonies commemorating the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz,

the ardent declaration by dignitaries was, "Never again." However, when all was said and done, much more was said than actually done. As one history professor has put it, "Forgetting the past has not prevented genocide in the present, nor has it helped the victims come to terms with their past. Perhaps the solution, then, is remembering."

The systematic annihilation and displacement of millions of Sudanese in Darfur is nothing less than the same repetitious cycle of systematic genocide that continues to haunt the world community to this very hour. Are we, as young Canadians, on the verge of allowing the next genocidal government to say, "Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Darfurians?"

MIRAN TERNAKIAN
Edmonton, Alberta

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication. Anonymous submissions will not be considered for publication. Submissions including large sums of money will definitely be considered for publication. Enjoy our first summer edition.

The Conservatives won't win an election



DAVID BERRY

These days, it seems that Stephen Harper and his Conservative cronies, when not eating or sleeping, are attempting to stoke the fires of sanctimonious rage in the hopes of bringing down Canada's shockingly inept, yet still powerful, Liberal government. Sensing that Canadians, despite the fact they keep saying they don't want to have an election, might finally out the Grits after years of, if not ineptitude, at least ineffectiveness, Harper and company are going for electoral blood.

What I can't figure is why on earth Harper is so gung-ho on an election. As it stands, the Conservatives are in pretty much the greatest position of their lives: they're the big, bad, official opposition that directly opposes the minority government that has as tenuous a grasp on power as I has for the last 15 years, and probably ever will. Oh, right, of course: Harper thinks that the Conservatives might actually win an election if it was called. The simple fool.

Look, I know the Liberals are a weak, borderline-corrupt party that has, until very recently, been coasting along, drunk off their own self-assurance and majority governments, occasionally taking the time to sweep a scandal under the rug, until the big one finally came along. And I know most Canadians, especially those of the western variety, are probably sick to death of them. But, they're the

"It's like a law of nature or something: an election means it's time for Joe Hillbilly, Conservative MP of Buttfuck Pass, Alberta, to finally express all those anti-gay, anti-abortion, pro-God, anti-poor people, anti-centrist views he's been bottling up for those long, cold, non-election times."

Liberals: they always win.

And it's not so much their fault as it is the Conservatives'—or, as they should more accurately be called, the Alliance. Or Reform. Whatever you like, really. See, every time the Liberals seem to be dipping in the polls, and the Conservatives get some power, and it looks like maybe, just maybe, Canadians might throw off the conservative fiscal policy of the Liberals for the conservative fiscal policy of the Conservatives, one of the more back-water Conservative MPs gets asked a question about gays, or women, or capital punishment or something and, instead of keeping his mouth shut, shoots off some of the more reactionary, redneck commentary you'll likely ever hear on the issue, thus giving the Liberals one gigantic loophole to skate right through on their way to winning another election.

It's like a law of nature or something: an election means it's time for Joe Hillbilly, Conservative MP of Buttfuck Pass, Alberta, to finally express all those anti-gay, anti-abortion, pro-God, anti-poor people, anti-centrist views he's been bottling up for those long, cold, non-election times. Then, everyone who isn't extremely right-wing—particularly Ontarians—get scared that they might be electing some sort of neo-theocratic regime that's going to destroy all the soft-liberal social ideals

they hold so dear, and go right back to voting for the Liberals, who have a tremendously lower number of back-water MPs spouting views that differ radically from the mainstream.

Now, I'm not saying it's entirely fair—the Conservatives, though they do have far more ties to the Alliance/Reform than the former PC party, aren't really as hard right as their predecessors, and it seems as though the vast majority of them are closer to centre than the odd one whose views are ripped from the redneck bible. And, to be fair, it's probably high time the Liberals had at least one session without power, if for no other reason than to re-energize them. I mean, I would prefer it if the NDP did the dethroning, but I'm trying to be realistic here.

But, no matter how dire things look for the Liberals, it's pretty much inevitable that the Conservatives will mess things up for themselves, and, once the results are counted, the Grits will be in power again. And, considering that a minority government, especially one as weak and as troubled as this one, is pretty much the best anyone can do without winning, it seems like Harper should just sit back and enjoy the pseudo-power while he has it. Or, of course, he could just make sure none of his fringe MPs ever talk to the media again. But we wouldn't want to limit their right to free speech, would we?

Here's to cigarettes, in all their wondrous glory

What other drug is social, industrious, and could make us tonnes of money?



JAMES STORRER

According to unpopular opinion, cigarettes are awesome. Yet, as of soon, smoking will no longer be kosher in Edmonton—as it has already become at campus businesses—and this awesomeness will be confined to the muggy, mosquito-filled outdoors, segregating the "normal" and "way cooler than normal" populations like high-school bus seating or, well, cigarettes. Of course, we can't gloss over the variety of generally unpleasant cancers this will protect us from; I am many things, but even I can't claim to be pro-cancer with a straight face. Neither, though, should we gloss over what we're giving up.

First and foremost is the humble cigarette's place as an industrial drug: aside from sweet, delicious coffee, what else can one enjoy without ruining one's job? Smoking pot at work is frowned upon for a variety of stupid reasons. The nose-stabbing wicked-taste of a pre-lunch-break line of blow, while comforting, is generally out of the price range of most of us working plebs. Going to work wasted after a pint of cheap bourbon is, as well, ill-advised, unless your job is taking the lines of SU back or Gateway editor. No, it falls upon cigarettes to bring some joy into the workday, and for millennia—nay, eons—they have performed the job admirably. Yet, we cast them aside.

Let us not forget also that cigarettes,

not merely relaxing and delicious, are also a social drug. Before the government, with all its "my name is whatever and cigarettes totally wrecked my throat" ads, convinced all you try-harders that cigarettes—most definitely cool—are gross and tacky—most definitely untrue—the hearty, savoury sociomix was a tasty mode of pleasant interaction. "Got a light?" I would ask, and into conversation we would segue. "Can I bum a smoke?" you would say, and I, being a flirtatious gentleman, would offer you one for free. What have we traded cigarettes for, now? iPods and handheld video games? The isolation of the modern soul? Moloch!

The smoker knows in his heart that, sometimes, living well is more important than living long, and as a smoker, I have a suggestion: instead of jumping on the tobacco-handling bandwagon and becoming as dull and drab as the rest of the city, this gloss over what embrace the opportunity to go its own

way. The university campus, after all, is under provincial jurisdiction, not that of the city of Edmonton. RATT and the Powerplant could be the only smoking bars in the Edmonton area. Think of the business we could do, the money we could make! And all thanks to cigarettes. Are they really that bad, now?

Perhaps a middle road is in order. Perhaps, say, cigarettes do have their uses, but the RATT and Plant staff don't deserve cancer from secondhand cigarette smoke. This is a valid point. I, myself, would pay cover just to get all that free cigarette smoke, but I understand if some people aren't into it.

There is still yet another way to make good on the situation, and perhaps help solve another problem, as well, remodel a floor of Pembina into a bingo hall. Trust me, those bingo players love their cigarettes. With the profits, think of what we could do: housing for unhoused students! Smoke-themed scholarships! And cigarettes, delicious cigarettes, for all!

If it is the case—and court decisions, as well as recent studies, suggest that it probably is—Pfizer deserves a good, long thrashing, either for knowingly putting a drug with serious side-effects on the market, or for being too dumb to actually find out all the side effects of their product. If it isn't the case, this is just another in a long line of frivolous lawsuits by people who aren't able to take responsibility for their own actions. Either way, someone should get in the sack.

DAVID BERRY

No sack beatings are actually given.

THE BURLAP SACK

The following burlap beating goes out to either Ontario resident Gerard Schick or drug company Pfizer, pending an Ontario court ruling.

See, Schick is claiming that a drug he had taken to help with his Parkinson's disease, the Pfizer-manufactured Mirapex, is directly responsible for his gambling addiction. And whether this is true or not, somebody definitely deserves to get beat for it.

THE GATEWAY

Sum, sum, summing up summer time since, uh, Thursday



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APPLICATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 21, 2005



The Sadies psyched to play with parents ... for cash

The Sadies

with The D-Rangers
Siderock Cofe
Thursday, 12 May at 8pm

DAVID BERRY
Managing Editor

Summer brings a lot of things: warmer weather, colder drinks, bronzer people, more convertible cars. But for The Sadies' singer/guitarist Dallas Good, the best part of summer is none of those petty things: it's folk music festivals.

"We pride ourselves on our live performance, and we provide a type of entertainment that's diverse enough that we can reach out to a lot of different people with different tastes, provided that they want to drink and dance and carry on like that," he explains in his gruff, scratchy voice, over the phone from Vancouver. "And there is no better place to do that than at a folk festival."

Good and his alt-country bandmates—fellow singer/guitarist and brother Travis, bassist Sean Dean, and drummer Mark Belinsky—had some trouble, at first, getting on the folk-festival circuit, but now that they have, they love it. And, evidently, so do the crowds.

"The first couple times, when we started doing these festivals, in certain situations, we were playing for audiences that didn't really know us that well—maybe the promoters did, but, the people weren't familiar with us, you know what I mean," says Good as he trails off. "But we always won."

Won? Are festivals a contest?

"Actually, I look at festivals as a 'Battle of the Bands', and, so far, we've won every festival we've played, so it's been great," he says with a bit of a laugh.

But playing festivals is giving the band an opportunity to do a lot more than be a host of other bands in musical combat: at this year's Regina Folk Festival, Dallas and his brother Travis will get a chance to play with their father and his band, the Canadian Music Hall of Fame-inducted country group, The Good Brothers.

"We're playing as The Sadies, but The Good



Brothers are also playing, and then we're also doing a third show, which will be called The Good Family, which will be a combination of all of us. With my mother," adds Good after a pause. "So, we're likely to win that festival, too—the odds are really in our favour with that one."

It won't be the first time that the Goods' famous parents have helped out their boys in their music career either. As Good explains, Mamma and Papa have always encouraged them to pursue their musical goals—although their encouragement does come with a few strings attached.

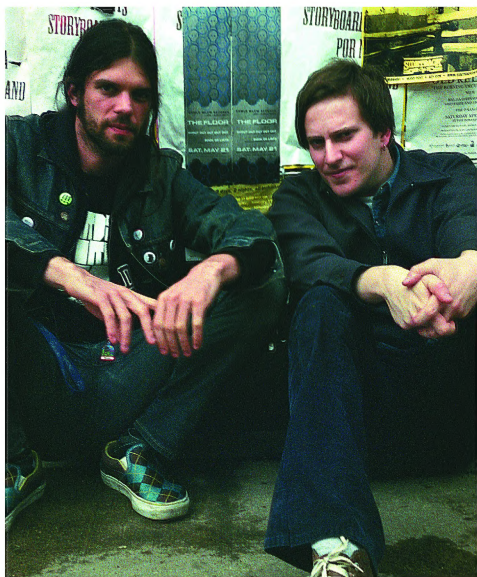
"They made it crystal clear that if I was to choose a life in music, it would be a life of poverty, and everything else that you can associate with the horrors and rigours of getting old alone," says Good with an audible smirk. "But, they've been totally supporting. They made it completely easy for my brother and I to make music, and to find music that me and my brother liked ever since we were little kids."

That said, of course, there's always a limit as to how involved your parents get, and Mom and Dad have never delved too far into their sons'

musical career.

"They've always been very supportive of us being into punk rock, and starting bands and everything, but by no means did they bring us up to be, you know, 'musicians,'" Good continues. "They play on our records and stuff like that, and they have for a while, but on the other hand, we never grew up playing in back-porch bluegrass bands."

"We only really play with them on stage," says Good, taking a beat. "And then, it's only for money."



RECORD JUNKIES Nick Kozub and Jason Troock are releasing The Floor's latest album on their label.

Shout Out Out Out member finds true love with pet-project record label

NRMLS WLCM label launch party

with The Floor, Shout Out Out Out, Out, Book Of Lists and Dls Mittens & Bob Crane
The Starline Room
Saturday, 21 May at 8pm

JAMES STORRIE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

As far as musicians go, the ubiquitous Nik Kozub—fan, producer, DJ and member of local synth-dance outfit Shout Out Out Out—has a jack of all trades, but it's only now, says Kozub, that he's really doing what he wants. "I've wanted to start a record label since I was 17," Kozub grins, reclining in an alley behind the Black Dog after a day at the studio. "I'm 28, and it's never really hit me to do this until now. I've done quite a bit of work towards it over the years, but it finally came time to say, okay, let's do this."

Kozub's new label, NRMLS WLCM, is a natural growth from what he's been doing for nearly a decade, and also a collaborative project with another Edmonton native, Jason Troock. "Jason's a good guy," Kozub says with a nod. "He's a friend of mine with a lot of business sense that I don't have. I know quite a few people, and I can do the whole artistic thing, but Jason's got the business skills, and I don't."

Where Kozub doesn't have the business experience, he has the industry "cred." "I've been working with a label out in Toronto called Sixshooter Records for about seven years," he explains. "Once we got going, I mentioned to

them that I had this project with Jason, and they were interested in taking us on in association, so now we have access to their resources and distribution and all that stuff, and that's awesome."

The pair has gotten down to business, putting those resources to work on a release for local staple The Floor, the first band to be signed to the label. Their new album, *Personnel*, will be released on 24 May and distributed through Warner, which may finally garner the new-wave rockers some national notoriety. Other planned releases include a Shout Out Out Out twelve-inch in June, including a remix by club favourite Mucky, a Floor remix twelve-inch and the first full-length Shout Out Out Out record, which is slated for an autumn release.

Kozub and Troock are celebrating the launch of NRMLS WLCM with a show at the Starline Room, which is also serving as the CD release party for The Floor. Yet, for all the work that goes into creating a label, signing bands, and promoting their startup, Kozub feels that the labour is well worth it, because he's part of a venture he's passionate about.

"I'm going to put out the stuff that I love. The thing with releasing records is that it's so unbelievably expensive that if you're not in love with a record, there's no point in doing it. It's so expensive that you have to know the record is so amazing that everybody should hear it—that you're going to spend all the money you don't have and max out all your credit cards just so that everybody can listen to it."

"But whatever," grins Kozub. "I'd rather spend my money on that than ... uh ... not."



SUPER SONIC Sonic 102.9 FM's morning show host Garner Andrews presides over his DJ booth ... in a trailer in Nisku.

Sonic 102.9 blasts tunes from Nisku trailer

DANIEL KASZOR
Editor-in-Chief

Located on an inauspicious track of highway on the edge of Nisku, an equally inauspicious trailer houses the offices of Edmonton's newest radio station, the modern-rock centric Sonic 102.9 FM. After finishing their test period this Monday, Sonic officially started normal broadcasting.

The idea for the station was put in motion four years ago, as a way to help foreign-language station CKER 101.9 FM. "We applied for another license to complement CKER, and to generate a little revenue to keep that unique station on the air," program director Al Ford explains. "We looked at the market and found an area that wasn't being served."

After getting everything ready to broadcast, their studio still wasn't ready for them, so less hospitable digs had to be found.

"It was going to be in [morning show host] Garner Andrews' basement," chuckles Ford. "Our building down on Gateway Boulevard won't be done until August, and we just didn't

want to wait." Luckily for Andrews, the trailer in Nisku was readily available.

So far, Sonic is getting fairly good reviews, due mostly to the fact it aims at a different market than other Edmonton rock stations, playing a mix of older and newer modern rock, ranging from The Ramones to The Bravery. Ford insists that the station will continue with their current format in the future.

"So many people think that [now the test period is over] we're going to drastically change in all these ways," Ford states emphatically. "What you heard [during the test period] is what you're going to hear two weeks from now."

One of the things that did change was the addition of Garner Andrews, the guy whose basement they were going to steal. He has his own take on what Sonic is about. "We're a rock station, but we don't want to alienate listeners. And when I say that, I mean we don't want to alienate female listeners," Andrews explains. "We've already noticed that there is a huge percentage of women calling into

the radio station, and we want to be very careful that we appeal to both sexes. Also, we're going to play a lot of music."

But gauging from the reaction of Ford and the station's crew when the touchy subject of satellite radio is brought up, the station will be featuring more than just music. "You mean pay radio? Call it what it is," Ford remarks harshly. "Satellite radio is basically a musical jukebox with no personality whatsoever. And, if you want a jukebox, you're going to throw on your iPod. We can put a local spin on the music; we are a local radio station. Right now, satellite radio is just a buzzword."

As for Sonic's position in the marketplace, Ford is fairly ambivalent. "Other people enjoy the classic rock, and to them it's great music. The average 42-year-old guy wants to hear Van Halen every day; he doesn't want to hear the new Weezer song. Everyone has their own musical tastes. We don't want to come along and say we're the best radio station in the world, because we aren't. We're just one of many, and we hope you like our mix tape."

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Studio Theatre hopes to leave you in hysterics with final production of the season

Hysteria

Directed by David Allan King
Written by Terry Johnson
Starring Jon Baggaley, Lara Brovold
and Richard Gishler
Timmins Centre
19-28 May

DAVID BERRY
Managing Editor

David Allan King sets his coffee gingerly down on the table. His eyes flicker back and forth, focusing on nothing in particular, as he tries to think of why, exactly, he picked *Hysteria* as the play to produce at his master's thesis, as production designer Patrick Du Wors looks on, waiting for King to speak.

"It's just—it's challenging. It's challenging from every angle," King says earnestly after a few more moments and another sip of coffee.

The play, written by English playwright Terry Johnson, is loosely centred on a historic meeting between the founder of psychology, Sigmund Freud, and surrealist painter Salvador Dali. It's a looping look at Freudian psychology that manages to be grossly farcical and horribly tragic all at the same time, and it's that very dichotomy

that King, after some thought, feels attracted him to the piece in the first place.

"You have to have actors who have to have a good command of the comedy, and the business of the farce—all the running around, trouser dropping and girl-chasing stuff that happens," explains King in a slow rhythm. "And then, you have to have actors who are rooted in drama and tragedy and able to play that."

"It has a total duality, or triality, if that's even a word," pipes in Du Wors with a laugh. "You've got your farce, your tragedy and the drama, and so really, there's three things that the actors, and David, are working with."

"And, if we do it right, we should all be hysterical by the end," adds King with a laugh.

Of course, for Du Wors, who doesn't pause for nearly as long as his partner, it's not enough that the play is challenging the viewer—he also likes it because, unlike a lot of theatrical plays, this one manages to be entertaining as well.

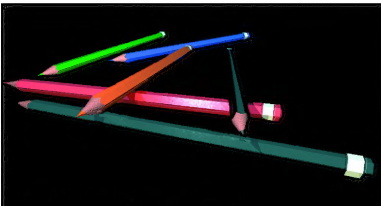
"It is really deep, but it was also commercially successful, which means it's actually entertaining," he says with a nod for emphasis as King smiles in agreement. "At the University, we do

a lot of plays that no one else can do, but often those plays are not necessarily that entertaining. I think it's really exciting to work on a play with this level of depth that was also commercially successful."

"I do think that's something where contemporary theatre takes itself a little bit too seriously, and forgets about the audience," he continues fluidly. "They get really into heavy-handed messages and theme over plays, and this one is really deep, but it's also really fun to watch."

But, as King jumps in, there is one more thing that really makes the play worthwhile: the opportunity to put the father of psychology, Freud himself, through the rigours of psychoanalysis.

"This is the 100th year since the famous case of Dora, who was the woman who inspired Freud to write his *Etiology of Hysteria*, so we can examine all of Freud's theories—or mistheories, if you want to call them that—about hysterical symptoms and hysterical women, and all of Freud's sexual theories about, well, everything, and put Freud on the couch, and examine him from a contemporary perspective," he says with a smile. "And I find that very, very exciting."



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This Kingdom isn't heaven

Ridley Scott's latest offering doesn't live up to its director's 'epic' pedigree

Kingdom of Heaven

Directed by Ridley Scott
Starring Orlando Bloom, Liam Neeson
and Jeremy Irons
Now Playing

DANIEL KASZOR
Editor-in-Chief

The only thing that can "really" be said about *Kingdom of Heaven* is this: it's long. Beyond that, it does little definitively good or bad enough to be worth seeing.

Heaven stars Orlando Bloom (*Lord of the Rings*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*) as Balian, a twelfth-century blacksmith who, while lamenting the death of his wife, finds out he is the bastard son of Godfrey (Liam Neeson), some sort of bigshot nobleman who is feeling bad about all the women he ravaged before he got his testicles skewered in battle. Following Godfrey to Jerusalem, Balian must find his way around the politics of the Holy Land.

The acting is mostly adequate. Bloom was able to play the heroic lead serviceably, but without much passion. While he certainly doesn't embarrass himself, and his performance doesn't ruin the film, it doesn't energize the audience either. When weighed against similar performances by Viggo Mortensen in *Lord of the Rings*, or even Russell Crowe in *Gladiator*, Bloom pales in comparison.

The rest of the cast is suitable, but mostly seems to be taking some strange direction from Ridley Scott. It's almost as if after every take Scott said, "Okay, that was great; now do it again, only make it more important."



Scott's direction, unfortunately, is the faltering point of the movie. Fox's marketing has pegged Scott as the master of the modern epic, which is rather confusing to me, because I've never thought of Scott as being a director who works in a massive scope. His best film, and also his first real hit, *Alien*, worked because he was able to capture the intimate moments of people's lives realistically, even when they were put into extraordinary circumstances. Although overrated, *Gladiator* essentially worked the same way: the personal story of a wronged man and his honour that happen to be played out on the grand scope of the Roman arena.

However, in *Kingdom*, the small, character-driven plot moments seem muddled and lost, making the grand scope the focus of the film.

Unfortunately, without the small, personal story to power it, Scott seems uncomfortable working with the huge battle scenes given to him. The action is tepid, and the scope surprisingly muted, especially considering that we're supposed to be seeing armies of hundreds of thousands clashing.

Even though the film is long—long to the extent that it drags by the end—it could have been fixed by being longer. The characters would have had more time to develop, and the film's direction could have been shaped by more than what felt like the intrusive hand of the director. Apparently, Ridley Scott thinks so too, since he said that his intended version of the movie will be coming out on DVD, and it will be an hour longer than the one currently showing in theatres. That should be the version you watch.

Jiminy Glick flick gets lost in La La Wood

Jiminy Glick in La La Wood

Directed by Vadim Jean
Starring Martin Short, Jan Hooks
and Elizabeth Perkins
Now Playing

ELIZABETH VAIL
Arts & Entertainment Writer

In a nutshell, *Jiminy Glick in La La Wood* is an otherwise entertaining comedy hampered by a lion's share of tragic flaws. The cast performs admirably, the celebrities grin and mug and make fun of themselves in their cameos, but, while everyone seems to be trying very hard, the movie runs like a harried babysitter outnumbered by unruly children—it feels like it's being pulled in too many directions at once.

Jiminy Glick begins as a humble television movie critic in Butte, Montana. He gains international fame on the celebrity circuit at the Toronto Film Festival by snagging a rare, once-in-a-lifetime interview with reclusive actor Ben DiCarlo (Corey Pearson) as a reward for being the only critic to give his film, *Growing Up Gandhi*, a glowing review. Once he's firmly ensconced in the public eye, Jiminy becomes unwittingly involved in the murder of the alcoholic has-been actress Miranda Coolidge (Elizabeth Perkins), all the while quizzing Kurt Russell on his relationship with Elvis and mistaking Whoopie Goldberg for Oprah ("Nobody spells my name right," she confides, playing along, "O-P-E-R-A").

Wacky, biting and deliriously

bizarre, the film is a heady mixture that nevertheless doesn't quite gel.

The entire movie is more like a series of long skits that are just barely tied together by a shoestring plot. There is the relationship between Miranda Coolidge's daughter Natalie (Linda Cardellini) and her assistant Dee Dee (Janane Garofalo in a teeny-tiny role), a rap trio and their attempts to get publicity for their animated movie about gangsta' cockroaches and even a film where Miranda is pleased by a lesbian boat captain prying leeches off her skin. How does it all fit? Simple—it doesn't, and the movie suffers because of this.

Due to the erratic pacing and tenuous segues between the various storylines, there are parts that work and parts that don't. The entire film's dialogue feels improvised, and the humour is largely hit or miss, with the best scenes being where Glick is doing what he does best: talking to celebrities, rather than scrambling around with his wife Dixie (an almost unrecognizable Jan Hooks), pretending to give a damn about anything else. The scenes to look for are his interviews (the cream of the crop being with a valiantly straight-faced Steve Martin), his red carpet canoodling ("So you're Canadian," he demands of Kiefer Sutherland, "What's up with that?"), and his giggle-inducing mix-ups (he gushes about *Forrest Gump* after Forrest Whitaker passes by).

The film is certainly entertaining, but aside from the few moments that Glick makes great, the movie, just like Glick himself, isn't always pretty.

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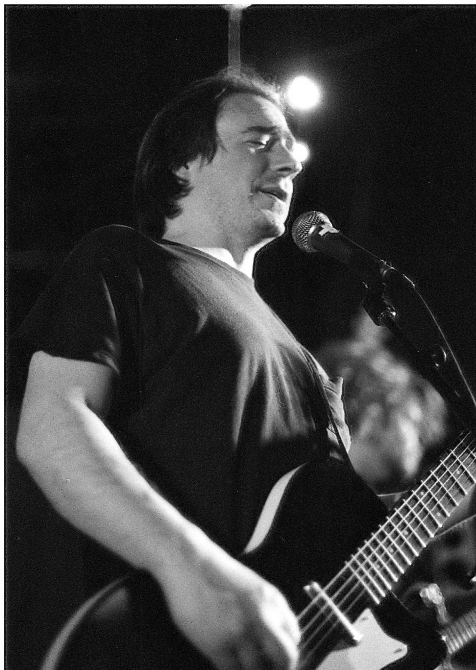


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KATE TWINE

FLOWER POWER Magnolia Electric Company brought their guitar-heavy alt-country act to New City this past Sunday. Lead singer Jason Molina, formerly of shoe-gazer act esq.3, burned the lights out with his tales of working class heroes set to driving, Neil Young-esque rock.

SPORTS

sports@gatewaycalberta.ca • Thursday, 12 May 2005

Basketball Bears stand the heat in Greece

ROBIN COLLUM
Sports Writer

While students in Edmonton have been carefully enjoying the first warm days of spring, the Golden Bears were basking in the Mediterranean heat.

The team has returned from a week-and-a-half long trip to Athens, where they spent the beginning of May playing three games against Greek club teams. They've come back with a 2-1 record, great memories, and perhaps even the opportunity for a few of them to play there on a more permanent basis.

"Everything is great here and we are being treated really well," head coach Don Horwood wrote to the Gateway during the trip. "Lots of tourist stuff plus some good basketball. How can you beat that?"

The Bears won their first game, a 104-77 romp against the Panionios B club team, a division-one junior team. Mike Melnychuk put up a team high 22 points, and James Hudson followed with 20 of his own.

"The Panionios Basketball Club is one of the best in Greece, and their A team is currently involved in their national playoffs," Horwood explained.

"We played very well," said Melnychuk, also e-mailing from Greece. "I had a really good game, and James Hudson had some unreal dunks."

However, the Bears second night was not as successful, as they lost 83-81 to the AEK Club, a division-three team.

"[It was] a very exciting match," said Horwood. "We were flat early in the contest and were down by six at the half. We battled hard in the second half, but [the Bears] just didn't have the intensity of the night before."

"We played poorly as a team," Melnychuk admitted. "They played aggressive zone defense, and we didn't shoot well."

Paul Sudol led the team with 22 points and twelve rebounds, while Scott Gordon put up 18 points. Melnychuk was good for 16.

Things turned around for the Bears in their last game, which proved to be a nail-biter. Playing Kronos, the division-three champions, the Bears overcame a 52-38 halftime deficit, and were able



FILE PHOTO: DAN LAZIN

INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN Richard Bates (left) and James Hudson (right) both had productive trips to Greece, catching the eyes of foreign coaches.

to squeak out an 83-82 win behind the late-game heroics of soon-to-be-senior point guard Gavin Fedorak.

The Bears enjoyed their games, and have learned from the experience of playing in a different atmosphere.

"The team is very grateful of our coaching staff and the U of A program for setting us up with this trip," wrote Bears' forward Paul Marr after their second game. "It's the trip of a lifetime."

"I feel I played well, and the talent level is very

good over here," he added. "Not necessarily every player is amazing, but in general they are skilled."

A number of Bears caught the attention of Greek coaches with their impressive play on the trip. "Some coaches are interested in Melnychuk, Hudson, Sudol, and Bates," said Marr. "I don't know how serious it is, but we'll see."

Of course, a trip to Athens wouldn't be complete without visiting the beaches, clubs, and landmarks that the city has to offer, and the

Bears made sure to do plenty of exploring on their holiday.

"The beaches and clubs here are amazing," Marr wrote.

"The trip has been a blast so far," Melnychuk agreed after four days in Greece. "It's fun like we've been here for over a month, we've done so much already."

The Bears will take the summer for some downtime and summer work. Their training camp will begin in the fall.

FILE PHOTO: LEANNE FONG

Rautins looking high and low for basketball talent

Men's national coach impressed by Edmonton's athleticism, all-around skill; says CIS players have a shot at national team spots

CHRIS O'LEARY
Sports Editor

When it comes to finding talent for the men's basketball national team program, to say Leo Rautins isn't discriminating would be an understatement.

"The idea is not leaving any stone unturned. I don't care if people think you're too old; can you play? I don't care if people think you're too young; can you play? I don't care where you're from; can you play?" the recently appointed head coach of Canada's senior men's national team said.

Rautins was in Edmonton on 25 April evaluating a blending of the city's finest high school and university players. He came away from the hour-and-a-half scrimmage impressed with what he saw.

"We were in Vancouver, and [the skill level] was good, but here the athleticism jumped out right away," Rautins said. "We saw a little bit of everything. Length, athleticism... there are some guys here who can move the ball, some guys who can shoot the ball."

With the number of talented players steadily increasing in Canada, Rautins said that having players from Canadian university rosters performing at a higher level within the national team program is a possibility if they can show that they belong there.

"It's really about who steps up," he said. "Those guys are going to have opportunities. I don't care where anyone's from or what level they're playing at. It's what you show when we bring you in."

Rautins and his coaching staff are currently going from coast to coast, taking an in-depth look at the top players from across the country, with Edmonton as their third stop in a five-city western Canadian tour (Vancouver and Calgary preceded, followed by Regina and Winnipeg).

From the reaction of the coaches Rautins has encountered, he thinks that it's been a while since the national-team program has done something of this nature.

"I think that before you judge me on what you perceive as the experience I don't have, talk to me and find out where I'm coming from, what experience I do have. You gain experience in a lot of different ways."

LEO RAUTINS
SENIOR MEN'S BASKETBALL
NATIONAL TEAM COACH

"With the reaction we're getting right now, I don't think it's been done too much. Surprisingly, it's like we're being thanked for coming out here," he said. "If I'm not mistaken, Alberta is a part of Canada, and we're the Canadian team. I want to talk to coaches, I want to know what's good and what's bad and what we can do to help. The fact

that we have a lot more focus on the young kids and developing them, getting to them as quickly as possible, I think there's been a really positive reaction to that."

Prior to being hired by Basketball Canada in February of this year, Rautins had most recently worked as a television analyst for the Toronto Raptors. A former first-round draft pick in 1983, (17th overall to the Philadelphia 76ers) who spent two seasons in the NBA then seven in European pro leagues, Rautins also played on Canada's national team from 1977-82 and again briefly in 1992.

Although his career as a player has garnered him unquestioned respect across the nation, his lack of coaching experience has drawn criticism since his hiring, with some coaches and media having deemed his getting the job a PR stunt by Basketball Canada. Rautins said that if the coaches he meets with aren't happy about his hiring, they're not showing it. He says they've received him positively.

"I think that before you judge me on what you perceive as the experience I don't have, talk to me and find out where I'm coming from [and], what experience I do have. You gain experience in a lot of different ways," he said. "I've been around this game a long time. I'm not worried about [negative reaction from coaches]. If they're worried about it [they can] come talk to me. [Meeting with coaches] has been really positive, at least to my face, and I can't worry about it any more than that."

LEO RAUTINS

From national team standout to NBA vet (kind of), Leo Rautins has seen it all as an athlete. Now he's sharing his wisdom with Canada's best basketball players as the head coach of the senior men's national squad. Here's a brief run-down of his accomplishments.

Born 20 March, 1960, in Toronto, Rautins became the youngest player to ever be named to the senior men's national team at 16.

Rautins spent three seasons at Syracuse where he averaged 11.2 points and 5.7 rebounds per game. In 1981, he was the Big East Tournament's MVP and was an All-American honourable mention in the 1982-83 season.

After his stint in the NBA, Rautins spent seven years playing in Spanish, Italian and French professional leagues until injuries ended his playing career.

Leo's son Andy will suit up for Syracuse this fall as a freshman.

Four Golden Bears, coach, set to represent at East-West Bowl

ROSS PRIKSAKOWSKI
Sports Writer

After consecutive appearances in the Hardy Cup, and having an instrumental role in the turnaround of a once struggling program, four Golden Bear football players have received the chance to perform on a national stage with the best of CIS football in the third annual East-West Bowl game on Sunday, 15 May (2:30pm, TSN).

Quarterback Darryl Salmon, offensive lineman Sean Brown, defensive back Derek Baldry and linebacker Neil Ternowsky all received the nod from a selection committee composed of CIS and CFL head coaches and scouts, and will suit up for the West. However, the Alberta content on the team doesn't end with the players, as they will be joined by head coach Jerry Friesen, who will serve as the defensive coordinator for the West.

The selection of four players to participate in the event, which is meant to showcase talent available for the 2006 CFL draft, didn't surprise Friesen, last season's CIS coach of the year.

"When you take a look at it, Baldry is an All-Canadian, Salmon is the best quarterback in our conference, Brown is becoming a better offensive lineman every year and Ternowsky is an outstanding cover guy," said Friesen. "I think the committee recognized the talent and depth on our team and did a good job choosing the players."

Salmon, who played in the inaugural East-West Bowl in 2003, echoed his coach's sentiments and believes that the four players going to the game aren't the only Bears worthy of playing in it.

"We have a good team and I think that even more guys could go; there are lots of guys who deserve to [play in]



LONG GONE Jared Winkel and three of his teammates are going to the East-West Bowl at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo on 15 May.

JEFFREY GREENIAUS

this game. The four of us are fortunate to be going, but I definitely [think] our team as a whole is on the rise," said Salmon. "For me, I think it will be a lot different [than playing in the 2003 game] because I'll have a lot more snaps under my belt, I'm more comfortable at quarterback and I'll be coming in as someone who's played there before and understands how these types of games work."

While Salmon will have the benefit

of having previously experienced the atmosphere of the game, his teammates will have to adjust to lining up alongside their rivals from Canada West.

"Being able to meet and play with some of the guys from the West who I've played against for the last three years is going to give me a bit of a different perspective," said Ternowsky. "It will be neat to meet the guys and play with them, but after the game it will be back to the rivalry between

us."

Being in attendance at the game won't be the only way to enjoy the East-West Bowl. The lack of NHL playoffs this spring opened up the slot for the game, so for the first time, TSN will be broadcasting the game from coast to coast. Friesen thinks this will be beneficial to the Bears and the CIS game.

"I think the CIS is progressing to the point where we're starting to

understand that we've got a product that people want to see. As [Canadian sports networks] see the response from people, I think they'll end up wanting to showcase the game more," said Friesen. "I think what [the game] does is provide a profile, not only for CIS football, but each program. I know our players are going to be able to show their stuff and I think that they will show people just how far our program has come in the past few years."

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JAMES STORRIE

BACK AND LOOKING FOR MORE The university's new athletics director Dale Schula.

Schula aims for further Alberta success

SCHULA • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"To see [the football] program come back and do as well as it has under Jerry Friesen's leadership is really exciting," he said.

Schula also said the aspect of his job that he is most looking forward to is the opportunity to once again work with student athletes, maximizing their experience while at the University.

"Dealing with the student athletes and interacting with them is something that really excites me," he said. "[When] we have a coach-centred environment and a student athlete-centred environment, the student athletes have the best academic and athletic experience they can have, and that can be gauged on a lot of things, not only their success in terms of the win and loss column, but obviously their classroom success, which is very important."

Schula hopes to bring new revenue in for athletics through improved fundraising, which he says will have a positive long-term impact on the athletics department.

"I think where we're going to make strides

is in the fund development area," he said. "I'm looking at trying to establish some mini campaigns; we'll look at the priorities for each team and we'll set up a fundraising campaign that will target the athletic alumni in each of the athletic programs."

With one of the most consistently successful athletics programs in the country, Schula would like to see the Bears and Pandas not only maintain their high level of success both in sports and academics, but to also continue to improve upon it.

"I don't think there's any question that we're the leading university athletic program in Canada, and we want to keep it at that level," he said. "We can't stay the same. We're either moving forward or we're moving backward; we've got to continue to move forward and challenge ourselves."

Schula will get to put all of his plans and ideas into motion on Sunday, 15 May, when he officially becomes the University's new Athletics Director.



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JAKE
TROUGHTON

Sports
Commentary

My interest in pro wrestling has waned somewhat in recent years. There are various reasons for this, I suspect, whether it be that *M*A*S*H** reruns held more appeal, I've been busy when the shows are on, or that pro wrestling is really stupid.

Regardless, since the end of the school term and the CIS season, I've been hungry for some good 'sports entertainment,' and in the absence of that, I've started watching *WWE RAW* and *Smackdown!* again. But, it just hasn't been the same. At first I couldn't quite put my finger on it; the matches are still too short, the music too bland, the backstage skits too idiotic, and the shows still as politically incorrect as ever (in a way it's almost comforting to know that *WWE* will always be there to remind me that Arabs, homosexuals, and women are all bad people).

Over the last few weeks, though, the answer has sunk in, and it's not a pleasant one. A long-time trend has finally reached its conclusion and robbed wrestling of one of its greatest features; sadly, the era of the heel announcer is over.

See, one of the things that makes wrestling fun to watch, occasionally, is its ridiculously black-and-white morality. There are good guy faces and bad guy heels—the faces can do no wrong, and the heels will attempt murder rather than come out on the losing end of an interview, let alone a match. Back in the day, the TV announcer teams reflected this worldview: Gorilla Monsoon would tirelessly cheerlead for Hulk Hogan

and friends, while Bobby "The Brain" Heenan viciously slandered the good guys and prayed for someone to come in and make a Newton's cradle out of their heads.

"Back in the day, the TV announcer team reflected this worldview. Gorilla Monsoon would tirelessly cheerlead for Hulk Hogan and friends, while Bobby 'the Brain' Heenan viciously slandered the good guys and prayed for someone to come in and make a Newton's cradle out of their heads."

The revelation that this era was gone for good came while watching *Smackdown* a couple weeks ago, when Eddie Guerrero abandoned Rey Mysterio Jr during a tag-team match. He walked out, then came back, but refused to tag Rey—all in all, a pretty asshole thing to do. But, as play-by-play man Michael Cole rightfully admonished Eddie, colour commentator Tazz simply echoed everything his partner said, and as I listened, I died a little inside.

I have no interest in listening to a pseudo-heel announcer who whines along with Cole about what a dishonourable thing Eddie is doing. What I need is someone who will spend five minutes passionately arguing not only that abandoning Rey was a morally acceptable course of action, but that it

was, in fact, the only morally acceptable course of action; if anything, Eddie should be ashamed he didn't take a steel chair to Rey's head, and if it were him, he would've ditched the dead weight months ago and spat on Rey's mother to boot, and that's only if he were stupid enough to team with Rey in the first place, which he wouldn't have been because Rey's such an obviously pathetic waste of DNA.

A week later, when Rey slapped Eddie and challenged him to a fight, Tazz should have been calling for Rey's arrest; instead he told us he really couldn't blame him. When Eddie briefly came to Rey's rescue later, Tazz should have been calling for Eddie to be put in an asylum; instead he was silent. When Eddie then turned on Rey for good and beat him into even more of a bloody pulp than he'd already been beaten into, Tazz should have had an on-air orgasm rivaling those of Don Cherry after Dougie Gilmour has hammered some French guy into the boards; instead, he only begged Eddie to stop.

Over on *RAW*, it's not much better. Jerry Lawler sometimes sympathizes with the heels, but not too much. Mostly, he just makes offensive sexual remarks about various women (which, by *WWE* logic, makes him a crowd favorite).

This trend has really hurt both the *RAW* and *Smackdown!* shows, as the cartoonish moral code that helps make wrestling fun to watch is being pile-driven into history. Perhaps now, more than any other time in its existence, the *WWE* is loaded with wrestlers doing horrendously evil things that only the most depraved commentators could possibly defend. It's a shame that these depraved commentators seem to be below the hiring standards of Vince McMahon. After all, a steel chair to the face just isn't the same without a grown adult laughing in childish glee.

Remember Fleury for what he was, not what he became



PATRICK
ROSS

Sports
Commentary

Tell me if this sounds like anyone you can think of: "He's a frustrated human being. He doesn't want to face his problems head-to-head." This is one small excerpt from a statement made by former NHL superstar Theoren Fleury following the Horse Lake Thunder's defeat in the semifinal game of the Allan Cup playoffs.

To place his comment in proper context, Fleury was actually referring to the heckling he received in the tournament held 19-24 April in Lloydminster. This aside, and perhaps it's just me, but it seems like Fleury is describing himself more eloquently than any of his critics—or supporters, for that matter—ever could have.

If there's one word to describe the direction Fleury's career has gone in, it's undoubtedly "disappointing," though others might go as far as to say "tragic." Fleury was seemingly at the top of his game when he willingly entered the NHL's substance abuse program on 28 February, 2001. He hasn't played a full season of hockey since.

"Every person has individual choices, to do what he wants to do. Sometimes we make the wrong

"One thing people often forget about Fleury is that his entire career has been built around overcoming adversity. Unlike many less-talented players, Fleury was not picked early in the NHL draft. He was taken in the 8th round in 1987, when Calgary stole him with the 166th pick."

choices in life," said Glen Sather, the man responsible for bringing Fleury to the New York Rangers. Since the time he has said this, it has been the general consensus on *The Fleury*.

Substance abuse is a problem that begins with individual choices, but quickly becomes an uphill battle. Many of Fleury's critics conveniently forget his most recent relapse closely followed his father's battle with cancer. This isn't to say that the role Fleury played in his own addiction should be overlooked, but rather that Fleury is as human as the rest of us, and his problem does not make him a bad person.

One thing people often overlook when the topic of Theoren Fleury comes up is that his entire career has been built around overcoming adversity. Unlike many less-talented players, Fleury was not picked early in the NHL draft. He was taken in the 8th round in 1987, when Calgary stole him with the 166th pick. This late pick came despite multiple appearances as a WHL all-star, and an international appearance as captain of Team Canada.

Once Fleury had his foot in pro-

fessional hockey's door, though, he immediately made an impact. In his first trip to the NHL playoffs in 1988, Fleury scored three game-winning goals in Calgary's stifled playoff run. In his first full season in 1988/89, Fleury scored 31 goals, registered 45 assists, and guided the playoff run where the Flames won their first and only Stanley Cup.

Over the years, Fleury has reached numerous landmarks in his hockey career. Aside from the aforementioned Stanley Cup, Fleury has also won a World Junior Hockey championship (Moscow, 1988), a Turner Cup championship in his IHL days, and, last but not least, an Olympic gold medal (Salt Lake City, 2002). His failure to add the Allan cup to his championship resume' should not overshadow the rest of his career.

On 24 April, Theoren Fleury lashed out in frustration. If the Horse Lake playoff series was the last time we see him on the ice, his conduct after the series should not be how we remember him as a hockey player. We should think of the upstart, under-sized youngster in a Flames jersey that wilted himself to hockey stardom.

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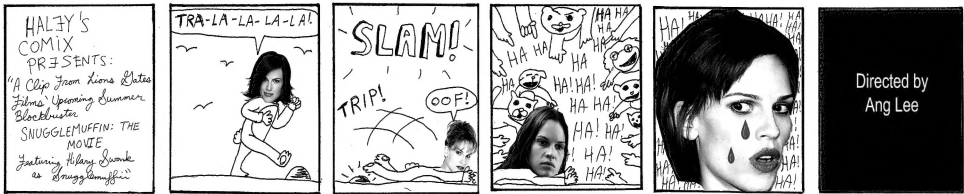
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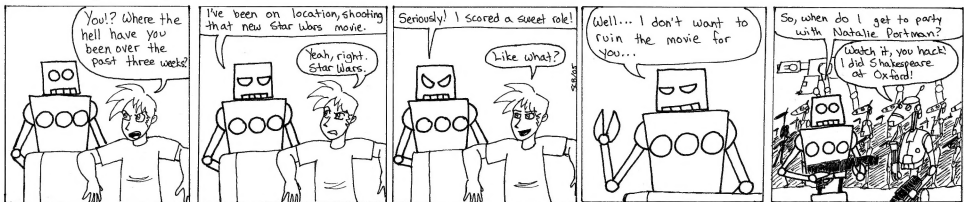
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THE STATUS OF THE GATEWAY SLO-PITCH TEAM

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The whole team got off to a slow start, of course, and by the end of the fourth inning we were down 14-2. However, despite our third female player being a phantom out (I hate her: she gets out EVERY TIME SHE'S AT BAT), we started to mount a stunning comeback. Thanks to a thrilling, Keystone Cops-ish home run by Dave Berry in the seventh and final inning on the last at-bat of the game (we already had two outs and the phantom was up next), we scored three runs to make the final score 19-8. For those keeping score at home, that means we won the final three innings 6-5 and, since the first four innings were clearly just practice innings, that means we won the game!

Go undefeated Papermats!!!

Game report and commentary by Jake "NorthPaw" Troughton. You can read more about the Papermats and other newspaper stuff at sadsnewspaper.blogspot.com.

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